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UNCLASSIFIED

TALKING POINTS WITH GENERAL CHI (CHURR)

1. INTRODUCTION

- Note sustained momentum in bilateral relations since your visit to China
- Bodes well for the advancement of mil-to-mil relations between U.S. and China
- Describe SECDEF's continuing interest in GEN Chi's visit
- Remind that SECDEF will call from Brussels Monday evening

2. DESCRIBE YOUR VISION FOR MIL-TO-MIL CONTACT WITH PLA (TAB A)

- Counterpart visits enhance mutual understanding and recognition of concerns
- Welcome frank discussion of concerns between U.S. and PLA at all levels
- Express desire to broaden mil-to-mil contact to include multilateral conferences and a bilateral exercise

3. PRESENT GEN CHI WITH A LIST OF PACOM MULTILATERAL CONFERENCES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1997 (TAB B)

- GEN Chi's visit gives you the chance to bypass many of Beijing's bureaucratic thickets and increases likelihood for greater PLA participation
- DATT Beijing presented this list to his PLA counterpart in November
- PLA participation in PACOM multinational fora is one of SECDEF's "concrete deliverables" (TAB C: SECDEF TALKING POINTS)
- Mention that most of the conferences on the list are held every year

4. CITE A SAREX AS ONE EXAMPLE OF POSSIBLE BILATERAL EXERCISE (TAB D)

- Opportunity for two militaries to work together toward a common goal
- Bilateral exercise is another SECDEF "concrete deliverable"
- Just completed SAREX in Hong Kong included 36 Chinese observers
- Perhaps this is type of exercise that would allow us to forge closer relations

5. CLOSING REMARKS

- Discuss briefly the activities planned for GEN Chi and Madame Jiang's visit
- Note that you have asked the Component Commanders to join you during the Command Strategy Brief and for lunch following